



Fire and Rescue Department

Fairfax County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NUMBER: 04-79
DATE: November 10, 2004

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Annandale House Fire Displaces Four

On Saturday, November 6, 2004, at approximately 12:30 a.m., Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire located at 4901 Chanticleer Avenue in the Annandale area of the County.

Firefighters brought the fire under control in approximately 15 minutes. Two adults and two children escaped unharmed and have been displaced. The American Red Cross is assisting the displaced family.

Damage is estimated at \$70,000.

The cause of the fire was accidental, an overloaded clothes dryer caused the fire.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department would like to remind you of some important clothes dryer safety tips.

- Clean the lint filter before or after each load. Don't forget to clean the back of the dryer where lint can be trapped.
- The interior of the dryer and venting system should be cleaned periodically by qualified service personnel. If you notice the drying time is longer, clean the vent system thoroughly to ensure proper airflow.
- Replace plastic, vinyl, and aluminum foil venting with rigid or flexible metal venting.
- Do not dry clothing/fabric on or near anything flammable (alcohol, cooking oils, gasoline, spot removers, dry-cleaning solvents, etc.). Flammable substances give off vapors that could ignite or explode.
- Don't forget to read manufacturers' warnings in use and care manuals that accompany new dryers. Also, warning markings can usually be found on the inside of the dryer's lid and take only minutes to read.

For more information on this or other fire safety issues, please contact the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Public Information and Life Safety Education Section at 703-246-3801 or 703-385-4419 (TTY).

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